REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending and stand finally rejected. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Hansen (US patent 6,493,755) for essentially the same reasons as stated in the Office Action of September 27, 2005, with the exception that the Examiner has also referenced the teaching in Hansen of "an action table" that can store in memory a number of user created notification actions. Within the notification rule, an administrator or user is able to select one of these predefined actions.

Applicant restates its remarks as presented in the Amendment as filed on 1/27/06. Further, applicant is unclear as to how the Examiner's interpretation of notification rule equates to 'activation and deactivation' can be maintained by citing Hansen's use of an "action table" for storing a number of notification actions? However, as previously stated by applicant, a "notification action" is not the equivalent of applicant's claimed "activating and deactivating" of a rule set. Indeed, the term "notification action" is specifically defined in column 2, lines 32-39 of Hansen as any of a number of modes of communicating the occurrence of a particular event to the network administrator. There is no "activating and deactivating" connected in any way with such communication.

The Examiner goes on to note that in Hansen's system, the administrator can make modifications to the rule in order to select one of the "predefined actions". Again it is not seen how this is equivalent to or suggestive of "activating and deactivating" a rule set. These predefined actions must be interpreted in the light of Hansen's definition of "notification action" as set forth in column 2, lines 32-39. Given Hansen's definition of

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"notification action", it is not seen how the administrator making modifications to the rule in order to select one of the "predefined actions" is in any way similar to "activating and deactivating dynamic rule sets", as claimed.

The Examiner further reiterates the teaching of Hansen that "a notification rule is defined by a set of conditions on a particular device... the type of event that triggers the rule and the severity of those events necessary to trigger the rule". Paradoxically, the Examiner concludes from this that the term "triggers the rule ... necessary" (column 4, line 56-column 5, line 13) has the meaning of "selective action to the rules". Applicant respectfully submits that Hansen's "selective action to the rules" at best merely indicates that a notification rule is defined by a set of event conditions on the device, and that these event conditions include the device identification, type of event that triggers the rule, and severity of events necessary to trigger the rule. There is simply no teaching or suggestion that rule sets are activated or deactivated.

As applicant previously noted, Hansen teaches automatic creation of new notification rules by populating fields from pre-existing events or device conditions in the event log , but does not teach or suggest activation or deactivation of notification rules. The term "activation" is not equivalent to "creation". Even if, assuming arguendo, that Hansen could be construed as teaching "activation" of a rule set by virtue of it having been "created" there is no discussion in Hansen of any "deactivating", i.e., Hansen addresses creation of new rule sets but does not contemplate "destruction" of rule sets.
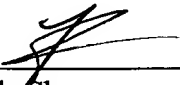
In order for a reference to anticipate under section 102, it must disclose, either explicitly, or under the principle of inherency, every claimed limitation of the claimed

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invention. Hansen fails to disclose or suggest at least "activating and deactivating dynamic rule sets", as claimed in claims 1 to 5.

For the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the present application, including claims 1 to 5, is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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